

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, February 26, 2009, the House stands in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 5 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

During the recess, beginning at 10:49 a.m., the following proceedings were had:

JOINT MEETING TO HEAR AN ADDRESS BY THE RIGHT HONORABLE GORDON BROWN, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The Speaker of the House presided.

The Majority Floor Services Chief, Mr. Barry Sullivan, announced the Vice President and Members of the U.S. Senate who entered the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Vice President taking the chair at the right of the Speaker, and the Members of the Senate the seats reserved for them.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to escort the Right Honorable Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, into the Chamber:

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER);

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN);

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA);

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO);

The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON);

The gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN);

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL);

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCINTYRE);

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON);

The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. CHANDLER);

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER);

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR);

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE);

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MCCOTTER);

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS);

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER);

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY);

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. KING);

The gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH); and

The gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. PETRI).

The VICE PRESIDENT. The President of the Senate, at the direction of that body, appoints the following Senators as members of the committee on the part of the Senate to escort the Right Honorable Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, into the House Chamber:

The Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID);
The Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN);

The Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY);

The Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD);

The Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD);

The Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER);

The Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN);

The Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB);

The Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN);

The Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN);

The Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL);

The Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL);

The Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR);

The Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER);

The Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON);

The Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH);

The Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO); and

The Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Her Excellency Heng Chee Chan, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore.

The Acting Dean of the Diplomatic Corps entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and took the seat reserved for her.

At 11 o'clock and 7 minutes a.m., the Majority Floor Services Chief announced the Right Honorable Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, escorted by the committee of Senators and Representatives, entered the Hall of the House of Representatives and stood at the Clerk's desk.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

The SPEAKER. Members of Congress, I have the high privilege and the distinct honor of presenting to you the Right Honorable Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Prime Minister BROWN. Madam Speaker, Mr. Vice President, distinguished Members of Congress, I come to this great capital of this great Na-

tion, an America renewed under a new President, to say that America's faith in the future has been, is, and always will be an inspiration to me and to the whole world.

Two centuries ago, your creation of America was the boldest possible affirmation of faith in the future. It's a future you have not just believed in but a future you have built with your own hands.

On the 20th of January, you, the American people, wrote the latest chapter in the American story, with a transition of dignity, in which both sides of the aisle should take great pride. And on that day, billions of people truly looked to Washington, D.C., as a shining city upon the hill, lighting up the whole of the world.

Let me thank President Obama for his leadership, for his friendship and for giving the whole world renewed hope in itself.

And I know you will allow me to single out for special mention today one of your most distinguished Senators, known in every continent and a great friend. Northern Ireland today is at peace, more Americans have health care, children around the world are going to school, and for all those things, we owe a great debt to the life and courage of Senator EDWARD KENNEDY.

Today, having talked to him last night, I want to announce, awarded by Her Majesty the Queen on behalf of the British people, an honorary knighthood for Sir EDWARD KENNEDY.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Vice President, I come in friendship to renew, for new times, our special relationship that is founded on our shared history, our shared values and, I believe, our shared futures.

I grew up in the 1960s as America, led by President Kennedy, looked to the heavens and saw not the endless void of the unknown but a new frontier to dare to discover and to explore. People said it couldn't be done but America did it.

And 20 years later, in the 1980s, America, led by President Reagan, refused to accept the fate of millions trapped behind the Iron Curtain and insisted, instead, that the peoples of Eastern Europe be allowed to join the ranks of nations which live safe, strong, and free. People said it would never happen in our lifetime, but it did, and the Berlin Wall was torn down brick by brick.

So, early in my life, I came to understand that America is not just the indispensable Nation; you are the irrepressible Nation.

Throughout your history, America has led insurrections in the human imagination. You've summoned revolutionary times through your belief that there is no such thing as an impossible endeavor, and it's never possible to come here without having your faith in the future renewed.

Now, I want to thank you on behalf of the British people because throughout the whole century, the American